Dear Joe, 11/12/92

If you wondered about the mailing I reported sending you about the time I expected you back from Israel, wonder no more. Here it is. It was hidden by the enormous accumulation on my desk! Not being able to use file cabinets or to face my desk squarely with my legs under it does create a few problems that from time to time get out of hand. And writing most of not all of a massive book while you were away did create a few new problems. The sheer bulk did. In time I'll have an accurate count of the number of words in this rough draft. Right now it looks like they'll total more than 200,000, perhaps a quarter of a million words. Perhaps you and Sam may be interested in its present situation and the wonderful kindness and thoughtfulness of a dear friend who wanted to see some of it as I wrote it and wound up retyping it on his computer. Which counts the words.

He is my Wisconsin history professor friend, Dave in some copies I may have sent you.

When another dear friend said he'd like to see the ms, Dave's computer spewed out what to then had been retyped and he sent it with a letter than says, in part, after he accredits himself as a subject-matter expert and professor, that what I have written is "a landmark book. Mr. Weisberg's finest hour. ...it encapsulates the entire issue of the murder" and much more. After saying what it at first seems to be he said that "soon other elements are woven in and gradually (and) the cumulative inpact hits you." He says that what the book also shows is that "What ultimately is at stake is the integrity" of the nation and out state. He concludes by referring to how factual it all is, "rooted in a massive documentation."

His last words about the book and its possibilities are that "I believe it could revolutionize thr subject-perhaps for all times. It has that potential."

I have had no reaction from the friend who received that letter and less than half of the retyped ms. I do not take that as an encouraging sign. In time I'll know.

Dave phones me every Sunday. He reports and we chat. He finds it incredible that I have been able to produce such a valume without notes or outline and he is separately impressed by the volume alone. For one of my age and many medical problems. And limitations.

When I began the writing I did not consider publication possible because I have no agent and we cannot handle, physically alone, a printing by me. My central purpose, considering my age and situation, was to make a record for history. But if the friend who asked to see the ms. wanted it published, he can arrange that easily. So, having heard nothing, I say nothing and absent some comment from him won't until he has the last of it.

Which, except for a concluding chapter he seemed to think a good idea and the conclusions, Dave already has. He is doing this wonderful favor me me when he can find the time from his more than full-time job of teaching, and many other important activities for which I do not now take time.

I'd have had the last chapter completed except that Cil and I came down with res-

piratory infections a week ago. The family doctor said he'd tried everything with her over the years in which she for no apparent reason looses loses her voice and there is nothing to do but let it runs its course. He put me on an antibiotic that seems to have made little or no difference. I was still running a small fever before bed last night and feel as though I still have it this early morning. I'm to see him again when I've completed the prescribed antibiotic medication.

While I cannot imagine the writing under such a rush being first rate and I'm sure the ms. requires some editing, I believe that I have produced a definitive work, perhaps as Dave evaluated it, THE definitive work on the "crime of the century" in the broadest sense, including in particular the failing of all the basic institutions of our society, with the jeopardy to it that entails.

The very large size means a more expensive book but from my mail and experiences over the many years I am without doubt that if it reaches the bookstores and is available in them and with my name on it the book will sell and not result in a loss. I am also without doubt that with advertising and promotion it could be what Dave says it would be, a "block-buster."

So, with apologies, I've updated you....The confusion comes from having to find space on my desk for so massive a ms and for the extenisve documentation that supports it.

The documentation alone is book -size! I'd hope for an appendix but believe that if this can get published an appendix would be impossible. Too much size alone.

Our love to all of you down there,

Harold